

COVID-19 Impact Reduction Strategy FAQs

How much catch up funding has Maple Tree been allocated?

Summary information					
School	Maple Tree Primary School				
Academic Year	2020-21	Total Catch-Up Premium	£18, 080	Number of pupils	226

Our School Allocation is based on Census information October 2020

Which areas of the curriculum will be focused on?

In the immediate future, we will be utilising the funding where the lockdown has had the greatest impact. This will include coverage of skills, knowledge and understanding that urgently need addressing. The children will also have learning opportunities beyond the core subjects – we appreciate that these are key to much of the curriculum and reading, for example, will be given greater priority as it underpins everything and allows the children access to all areas of learning - but we will also continue with a broadened, not narrowed, curriculum. We know that the children enjoy the topics we cover and it gives them different aspects to their learning whilst allowing them to develop alternative knowledge, skills and understanding.

How long will it take to reduce the impact of the lockdown?

Until the children are assessed, it is difficult to say how long it will take before the impact of the lockdown on the learning is apparent; some will make accelerated progress on return, for others, this may be at a much slower rate. We will not be rushing the children to 'catch up', we need to ensure they are firm in knowledge, skills and understanding so that they can make the progress when they are ready - yet neither does this mean that we will be holding back those children who continue to work at an age related expectation. We will strike the balance to help all children with attainment and progress.

How will the children be assessed to establish whether there is a need for additional strategies and support to reduce the impact of lockdown?

We will assess the children regularly through both formative assessment (this is done through questioning, quizzes, self— and peer-assessment etc.) and summative (these are the more formal tests which may be used half termly). Data analysis from this enables staff to address missing skills and knowledge.

How will you monitor the progress the children make?

We have a rigorous monitoring and evaluation schedule which allows us to measure the impact of interventions and to evaluate the appropriateness of them. The teachers will meet regularly with senior leaders to ensure that actions taken are robust. The 'Catch Up Premium strategy' will also be discussed regularly with the governing body to ensure accountability for the spending of the funding.

How will I know what progress my child is making?

Parents' evenings will be held at the start of the Summer term to discuss the attainment and progress of your child(ren) so that we can continue to work closely with you in supporting the children fully. It is key, now more than ever, that the lines of communication are tight and if you have concerns on your child's return to school, then please do share those with a member of staff. As was the case last year, an adapted end of year report will be sent out at the end of the Summer Term.

What will this look like for my child?

Progress and attainment will be key areas for all children and a need to' close the gap' so that the children are working at an age appropriate level will also be addressed. This might take the form of small group interventions or some before or after school tuition for the older children as well as continued access to quality first teaching which includes differentiated learning, strategies to support SEN pupils' learning in class, on-going formative assessment etc.

This could include, for example, Early Years children where there needs to be a focus on the basic skills required to support them with school readiness such as phonics, speech and language, fine and gross motor skills, independence and social skills; or supporting children in other year groups with robust programs in phonics, basic number facts and reading comprehension.

You can find further details about the strategies we will be using within the Impact Reduction Strategy which can be found on our website.

What will this look like for my SEND child?

If you are concerned about the individual needs of your child and how this may impact on them reintegrating or making progress, then please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. Alternatively, please arrange an appointment to discuss your concerns with Mrs Pond, our SENDCo.

Will you also be providing social and emotional support?

We will be putting in social and emotional support where needed. For many children we are expecting that the physical strain will take its toll as the days will initially be much longer than they are used to, they will be hungry by mid-morning, there may be sensory overload for some as they become used to more children around them and there will be the relationships to rebuild as well. We will have regular circle times with the children and they will be given opportunities to discuss their lockdown experiences as well as celebrating their achievements.

Who will be providing the catch up intervention/strategies?

Interventions and support will be given by both teachers and teaching assistants as appropriate. As much as possible we feel using the staff the children know and who know the children will support the children best going forwards.

What should I do if I have concerns about my child?

Please contact your child's teacher via office@mapletreeprimaryschool.com, if you do need to speak to the teacher at the classroom door please maintain a 2m distance from staff and do not enter the box by the door.

What will you be doing to support my year 6 child with transition to secondary school?

We are in contact with Sandy Secondary School and will be liaising with them closely to put in place transition support for those children who will be moving on in September.

What can parents do to support at home?

One of our main priorities on returning to school is reading. This underpins all the fundamentals of a child's learning so we are asking parents to continue reading with their children as much as possible whilst at home. Younger children may need some additional support with phonics. Teachers will discuss areas for support with you at Parents' Evening.

Where can I find more detail on the COVID-19 Impact Reduction plan?

On our <u>website</u> you will find our strategy which details the amount of funding we receive as a school along with our aims and actions.

Who should I contact if I still need more detail?

If you need more information, then please contact the school office who will pass on your concerns to the relevant person, or alternatively you can email the school office marked FAO Mrs Bainbridge/Miss Hyde.